

**AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the six paragraphs beginning at page 4, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraphs:

- - The invention provides more particularly chelating agents of formula I, wherein X and Y are N, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R<sub>1</sub>, ~~[[R<sub>3</sub>]]~~ R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.

In another embodiment the invention relates to chelating agents of formula I, wherein X and Y are S, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.

In yet another embodiment chelating agents of formula I are provided, wherein X is N and Y is S, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.

According to a further aspect thereof the invention relates to chelating agents of formula I, wherein X is S and Y are N, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.

According to another aspect of the invention, chelating agents of formula I are provided, wherein X is N and Y is P, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>

aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1.

In another embodiment the invention relates to chelating agents of formula I, wherein X is S and Y is P, R<sub>6</sub> is H, C<sub>1</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>3</sub> alkyl, C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5</sub> alkyl or C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, monocyclic aryls, preferably phenyl or benzyl, or polycyclic C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>18</sub> aryls, optionally substituted with alkyl, carboxy, ~~exo-amino~~ oxo, amino, alkoxy or aldehyde groups, or a biomolecule and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as listed in Table 1. - -